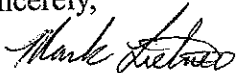


Natural Resources Commission,

It is disappointing for many hunters to hear that you are proposing the legalization of center-fire rifles for deer hunting in Indiana. You have created one of the best deer hunting states in the country through proper deer management. The one-buck rule has helped Indiana gain national attention as a top producing trophy state. I know that you will entertain a multitude of opinions concerning the proposed legislation on center-fire rifles and everyone's opinion concerning the issue should not only be heard but considered. My personal opinion on the matter includes the following questions to you:

- 1) Is it really safe for hunters to be in the field with other hunters who are using rifles whose bullets can travel several hundred yards up to miles further than their intended target?
- 2) How many people will die or be seriously injured by center-fire rounds?
- 3) How can the implementation of center-fire rifles improve the quality of hunting deer in Indiana when more deer will be wounded due to long-range shots?
- 4) Would you take your son or daughter out hunting during the firearms season if center-fire rifles were included?
- 5) You already provide more than enough hunting opportunity with the liberal firearm and muzzleloader seasons for hunters to have good opportunities, so why do you think we need hunters taking risky shots at deer that are too far away to begin with?
- 6) Will the legalization of center-fire rifles tempt hunters to shoot more bucks from the road?
- 7) Will poaching activity increase especially since you have created the ability for hunters to check-in deer online or over the phone instead of physically checking in their deer?
- 8) Were you surprised that deer harvest numbers decreased 28% during the 2013 season with the new check-in laws?
- 9) Do we really need more ways to kill more deer when we have a diminishing deer herd?
- 10) Do the benefits of this proposed legislation outweigh the negatives that I and others have described?

Sincerely,



Mark Liebner- Owner of Camp Kay Outfitters

P.S. I would like you to know how much I appreciate your help and understanding in this matter. My livelihood exists because of the quality of deer hunting in Indiana therefore I will not be allowing my hunters to use center-fire rifles even if you do legalize them.

Mark Liebner
4547 Elmer Gritz Dr.
Monticello IN 47960

**NRC Division of Hearings
Indiana Government Center North
100 North Senate Avenue
Room N501
Indianapolis, In. 46204**

**Timothy E. Rosenbaum
936 Gunsmith School Road
Bedford, In. 47421**

Subject: High Powered Rifles For Deer Hunting

I was reading the January 2015 issue of Tri-State Outdoor News and was reading the article about the state of Indiana possibly allowing the use of High Powered Rifles this year to take deer. It is my oppinion that there are enough weapons being used and they are powerful enough to get the job done.

The geography of this state does not work well with the use of high powered rifles. The state now allows the use of shotguns, muzzel-loaders, and pistol caliber rifles. The country side has way too many homes along just about every road in the state. A 200-yard shot, or thereabouts, ia about as long a distance shot as there is.

Even if the state mandates that every hunter that is going to use a high powered rifle have completed a manditory hunter safety course no matter what his age or experience. There are a lot of hunters now that don't even get a license or tag and still go hunting anyway. If the state approves the use of high powered rifles there will be a lot of hunters that will go buy a 30.06, 7mm Mag., or anyother kind of gun and just go out and start banging away. I know of too many hunters that take "SOUND-SHOTS" before they know what the target is or let alone what is beyond it.

I live on just 10 acres and there are a lot of deer in this area. I'm not looking forward to worrying about having some idiot throwing slugs thru my house. If that were to happen I may just decide to shoot back.

I strongly believe that the use of high powered rifles for deer hunting would prove to be a huge mistake.

I'm anxiously awaiting your decision on this matter.

Yours Truely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy E. Rosenbaum". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

To the DNR office of Indiana:

I'm 71 years old and I was Born in Indiana and I have hunted and fished here many years. I'm very concerned about what I'm hearing about Hi-powered rifles maybe being used here in Ind. next year. I have several large caliber rifles I've used to hunt caribou, antelope, mule deer, Elk, in Canada - Colorado - Wyoming - Montana New Mexico, I always hunted with outfitters, and they all gave their hunters a gun safety Brief and they always said don't shoot over ridges. Out there the people grow up with these guns and know and keep their Responsibility. This is my greatest concern with these guns. Indians folks grew up with .22's & Shotguns. How are we going to educate our hunters on the long ranges these guns have??? We have School children out waiting for their Bus to come. We have these Buses going down many Back roads where these guns will B.e during deer Season, my wife could get shot at home hanging up clothes. Many of our 20-30-40 acre woods have homes in them, many you can't see from a distance. We have many cities - towns - Shopping Malls within range of Hi-power rifles in deer woods. I really don't think this is in our Best interest at this time, OVER Y

We are all used to shooting at deer at 100-150-yards with shot guns, now people will shoot 300-400yds, when you pull the trigger, you cannot recall that Bullet, it will go its course, wherever that may be. I truly hope you people at Indiana DNR will make wise decision on this subject.

a very concerned citizen

Thank you very much

Louis Delgrange

5406 Brinck Rd

New Haven, Ind

46774

PS all these Mountain States I mentioned are very mountainous, Rifle Bullets hit those hills nearly always, Indiana has much flat-level terrain, causing many Ricochet bullets.

To whom it may concern

I'm a avid deer hunting person. I think it is a good idea to use High Power rifles to hunt with.

I've been hunting deer since the very first season. my first season hunting with a Bow & arrow in 1965 & have been hunting with shot gun & MZ loader untill they came out with pistols of 357 & larger & Rifles with pistol cartridges 44 mag & will never go back to shotgun. I have been hunting ever since and I am 84 years old & still hunting every day.

since June this year, I have exess to the DNR farm permits to thin the deer from area Bean fields off my neighbor & Charlson. I use a 270 & make a star kill. Back in the '60 & '70 there was no way you could use a H P rifle because there were to many hunters in the woods. Now days the younger generation doesn't hunt much. my opinion is there are to many bucks & not enough does. Buck is not enough. This Bow season I seen 7 diferant Bucks & no does. This gun season I've not seen a single deer. my county is Monroe - Mostly hunted Brown untile a few yrs ago & only Monroe

my customer
DNR #
30296

Dick Peterson
7350 E STRD 45
Bloomington. IN 47408

812-3328992

NRC – Div. of Hearings
Indiana Government Center – N
100 N. Senate Ave. RM N501
Indianapolis, IN 46204

TO ANY ONE WHO IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE HIGH POWERED GUN REGULATIONS -----

I don't know why I get the feeling this will be trashed right now – maybe because I feel there isn't anyone in our Natural Resources Department that CARES about this **STUPID!!** regulation.

Do you get the idea that I am totally against allowing high powered guns for deer hunting? They are not necessary if the person doing the hunting is a "true hunter". If you are, you know to sit and be patient if you see a deer that far away. Use some scent or use your grunt call to get them closer. OR just sit and be quiet and you might get lucky.

However, my concern is **SAFETY -- LET ME REPEAT: SAFETY!!** Our home is surrounded by woods on three sides. My dog and I enjoy going for walks and in the winter months when we go I wear an orange hat and an orange vest and I make noise.....probably scaring deer in the process. Usually we know where the people that ask for permission to hunt are located. So the dog and I stay away from that area. BUT in the last few years it is getting to be more and more common for UNINVITED hunters to just make themselves at home. If the high powered guns are allowed I'll have to live in the basement for fear some numb skull that just invited himself will shoot and hit the house!! Or perhaps another hunter that is sitting where the numb skull didn't see him.....or worse yet, thought it was a deer and shot! And what about the natural resources personal out doing their jobs? **THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO REASON TO ALLOW HIGH POWERED GUNS FOR HUNTING!!!**

It is my Prayer to the Good Lord that the agency in charge of this will come to their senses and cancel this stupid law. It will also be interesting to see if you people pay any attention to the wishes of the public. Everyone I have talked with is AGAINST this proposal.....and that includes "true hunters". PLEASE USE YOUR COMMON SENSE AND CANCEL THIS REGULATION!!



Marsha Davis
5809 W 1300 N
Silver Lake, IN 46982
260-352-2564

I do not hunt but my husband and son do. Please don't ruin their enjoyment.

P.S. Forget about the MONEY - it's the root of all evil - Remember?

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION

Dear: NRC

I am against the use
of High Powered rifles
For deer hunting. It
would be a safety hazard.
Hunters already have
plenty of options to
use For deer hunting
with the current rules.

Sincerely

Jimmy Browning



Mr. Jimmy D. Browning
2931 Ponderosa Rd.
Spencer, IN 47460

11

Dec. 26, 2014

Natural Resources Commission,
Gentlemen,

We live on a small farm
with wooded areas with wildlife
(deer) around us.

I also ask who is going to
be accountable for the property
damage, injuries, or loss of
livestock or life - when bullets
can travel two or three miles
before they return to earth!!

Please keep the limits on the
guns allowed for deer hunting
and do not allow high-powered
rifles!!

Consider all individuals not
just a few.

A concerned citizen.



Mrs Jean Heller,
335 E 200 N
Lagrange, IN 46761

Jean Heller
LaGrange, IN.

To The Natural Resource Commission:

I oppose the use of High powered rifles for deer hunting. The current weapons that are legal now give Hunters more than enough options. The High powered rifles would be too much of a safety risk.

Sincerely Robert Wilson 12-24-14

3071 Ponderosa Rd
SPENCER IN 47460

Dear: Natural Resource Commission:

I oppose the use of High Powered rifles for the use in deer hunting. Hunters have plenty enough options to use already, and the use of high powered rifles would be unsafe.



Randall Wilson
3072 Ponderosa Rd.
Spencer, IN 47460

Sincerely

Randall Wilson

MIKE BALLARD
5075 North Old 412
Vincennes IN

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

100 North Senate Ave Room 501

46204

47891

FILED

DEC 24 2014

DEAR SJD

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
DIVISION OF HEARINGS

I want you to know that HIGH POWER

RIFLE'S IS NOT FOR DEER HUNTING

I USE A Muzzle loader IT IS A 50 CAL.

I HAVE A NEBIS BOR USE A Muzzle loader

That is A 50 CAL, I was over at White ^{oaks} ~~oaks~~

It is A FISH AND WILD LIFE AREA DOING

DEER HUNTING THERE WAS A MAN DROVE

UP IN A TRUCK WHAT DID HE PICK UP OF

THE GUN CASE WAS A SMITH AUTO WAS A 300 CAL

RIFLE SO ^{my} DEER HUNTING WAS OVER BECAUSE I DID NOT WANT

GET SHOT I HAD MY BRIGHT ORANGE ON MY VEST AND MY

CAP BUT THAT DOES MEAN NOTHING BECAUSE SOME HUNTERS

SHOOT THAT ANYTHING THAT MOVES THEY DO IT LOOK WHAT

IS BEHIND THE DEER OR WHERE THAT BULLET IS GOING

SO GET RID OF THE HIGH POWER RIFLES AND KEEP IT

JUST LIKE IT IS AND MAKE DEER SEASONS LOOK NEW

LONG DEER SEASONS FOR ROWS AND LOOK HOW SHORT

IT IS FOR GUNS AND LOWER THE PRICE OF

HUNTING AND RIFLES ETC, SO PEOPLE CAN ENJOY

THE OUTDOORS MORE

SINCERELY
MIKE BALLARD

FILED

DEC 24 2014

Dear Sirs,

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
DIVISION OF HEARING

Please put me down as one household that is totally against raising the limit on high caliber guns for hunting deer or any animal. As a family that lives in a subdivision that is totally surrounded by farm land, if that happened it would be like living in a war zone. To me this option is totally unacceptable.

Dennis Heady
5641 Wildwood Ln.
Monroe City, Ind.
47357

Thank you —
Dennis & Carol Heady

FILED

DEC 24 2014

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
DIVISION OF HEARINGS

To whom it may concern? It does concern me for safety reasons & the conservation of the natural resource, the white tailed deer.

I'm writing this letter in opposition to the proposed rule change to allow Indiana hunters to use high-powered rifles for deer hunting starting in 2015.

I'm a seventy-four year old veteran of Indiana hunting regulations and I see little or no good reason to allow such a rule change. I remember growing up in the late 40's or 50's when you didn't see or hear of deer in Southern Indiana.

Deer hunters across the state with all the allowed permits may kill far more than they need or use which in my mind is needless waste. I have witnessed deer kill left with only a so-called trophy being taken which is a waste of this beautiful resource.

The State of Indiana now allows cross-bow, long bows (so called) pistols, shotguns, muzzle loaders, night-vision cameras and let's not forget all that are killed on the highways. This is another subject of interest, The Auto Insurance lobby.

May I ask, What's next if we allow high powered rifles, it may well be Apache Helicopters so we can exterminate all of Indiana's deer population. At seventy-four years of age I might just see the white tailed deer put on the "endangered specie list" and what a shame that would be.

Tommy C. Riley
2051 South Schoolhouse Rd.
Vincennes, Indiana 47591

FILED

DEC 24 2014

Dec. 24th - 2014

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
DIVISION OF HEARINGS

Natural Resources Comm:

I'm writing in response to your proposal on High Powered Rifle hunting in Indiana.

I'm 72 years old and a resident of Ind. for all those years. I hunt in Georgia with Rifles and have used everything from .223 to a 30-06. This was done on rough terrain and forest by someone that knows and respects their range and power. I'm "against" allowing high powered rifles in Indiana other than what we now allow. There is several calibers allowed now that I don't agree with but will accept. "There is a lot of calibers and loads that have no re-coil effect for all hunters, small and petit allowed in Ind." For those that want a larger caliber, we have the .358 Hoosier round or they can load 150 gr. powder in a muzzle loader or shoot 3 inch slugs at 200 yds!

If large calibers are allowed, the idiot hunters, which we all know, will be using 300 mag. and scaring the hell out of everyone all over the State. A lot of hunters I know hunt with what is allowed now but have never shot a .243 or 30-06, and do not know what they are or can do. This will play into the no-hunting, no guns crowd with a large, here's your sign

on all of our foreheads!!

I believe it will also be a great danger to other hunters all over the state as it is and has been in Mich., and PA.

If this law becomes in effect, I'll hunt with a 7m-08 but I'll be wearing full Armour bullet proof coveralls and at 73 yrs. old walking pretty dam slow!

Kenneth E. Jones
3338 S. 825 E.
Dunkirk, Ind.
47336

P.S.

You have my permission to use this letter in any upcoming debate on the new calibers!

12-18-14.

To Whom it concerns.

I Strongly oppose the proposed Section 5 312 IAC 9-3-3 than would change current rifle regulations to include .243 cal. and larger to be legal for deer hunting.

My reasons are.

1. Safety, due to the long range of these calibers in our populated state.
2. Deer numbers are at very low numbers due to recent years liberal antlerless quotas.
3. The average firearm shot to harvest a deer is less than 40 yds in Indiana. Current legal calibers are more than adequate.

Thanks for your consideration.

Dave Shively
436 W. 700 S.
Claypool, IN
46510

Natural Resources Commission
Division Of Hearings
100 North Senate Ave.
Room N501
Indianapolis, In. 46204-2200

12/20/14

Subject: Rule change proposal 312 IAC 9-3-3 subsection (D) (4)

I oppose the use of high powered rifles for hunting deer here in Indiana. Houses, roads & people are too close here in Indiana to use guns that shot into the air will go more than 5 miles.

The minimum proposed is .243, 1.16 in. minimum case length & no full metal jacketed bullet. All minimums - no maximums which allows the use of guns big enough to take down an elephant - totally unnecessary. Also the magazine capacity is not addressed, military type guns can shoot 30 as fast as you can pull the trigger instead of the 5 shotguns hold - totally unsafe not to mention bad press for hunters.

The modern muzzleloaders & shotguns reach out there making high powered rifles unnecessary here in Indiana.

If high powered rifles is allowed the minimum hunter orange needs to be a vest, a hat will not be noticeable at the 1000 yard plus ranges people are taking game these days with high powered rifles.

My opinion this rule change is stupid, not needed. If it came from DNR personnel, they need to be fired. If from the public, ban them from your meetings. This last paragraph included only to show how much I oppose the high powered rifle use in Indiana.

Please be responsible in this matter!!

Ron McKee
2110 Hawthorne Dr.
Martinsville, In. 46151

12-21-2014

TO

FROM

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

WILLIAM D. BOWMAN

DIVISION OF HEARINGS

CARMEL IN 46032

SUBJECT- DEER HUNTING PROPOSED RIFLE HUNTING

wmdbowman@comcast.net

My first deer hunt was in 1966 when Indiana had one buck only deer season. There after returning from Viet Nam in 1970 my love of deer hunting continued until 2001. I have had success with every legal weapon except the crossbow.

Please except my thoughts in regards to the new proposed rifle deer hunting regulation.

All Western States and most Midwest States including Kentucky, Tennessee, part of Michigan and many Eastern States allow center fire rifles for deer hunting. There urban zones are protected as well as certain Counties. Bow and Arrow, Crossbow and certain fire arms could be very suitable for Urban Zone deer hunting. Follow up on a wounded deer can be a very tricky proposition, especially during the late evening twilight hours.

Semi-automatic military weapons of certain makes and models should be excluded. I would rather see Sportsmen and Sportswomen during the deer season rather than Rambo with his AK-47.

Indiana has large open Farming communities and extensive heavy wooded Forests with semi mountainous terrain all very suitable for any Deer Hunter practicing safe gun handling and shooting technics with a rifle. A sporting Rifle of their choice larger calibers included. Indiana Varmint hunters are legally using the rifles of their choice. Hunter Safety Programs are available in Indiana and are being utilized.

Damaged to the Deer population in Indiana are Disease, over browsing, automobiles and some poaching.

If the professionals continue to properly manage our Deer Herd and allow this rifle regulation to pass and include into the 2015 deer season. I will be back into the wonderful Sport of Deer Hunting with my new rifle

Thank You

Kindest Regards

William D. Bowman

TO THE NRC DIVISION OF HEARINGS

We, the signee's are against the use of

High Powered Rifles

for the use of deer hunting.

Our belief is, that Indiana is to heavily populated for its use.

We kindly ask that you will consider our request.

Thank you.

Jerry Miller
Danell Miller
Carl Borders
Margaret Lee
Jean Borders
Delores Brown
Elaine Anderson
John Lee
Tony Werten
Claude Brown
Roger Martin
Jerry Sink
Idara Sink
Mafine Lifford
Claia Miller
Naomi Miller
Phillip Burk
Miles Burk
Forest S. King

Mr D / Mitchell
Gayle A. Mitchell
Joe Hart
Angie Gahn
Jamie Miller
Jimmy Spillman
Penny Miller
Patricia Adams
Brandi Adams
Jack Spillman
Tom Miller
E. Miller
Deana Miller

P.S.:

Of THE PEOPLE I
ASK IF THEY WANTED
TO SIGN THIS, I HAD
100% SIGNATURES.

FROM A HUNTER,
Jerry F. Miller





RESEARCH CONSULTANTS GROUP, INC.
ions handled worldwide

Mr. Clarence G. Hupfer
6501 W State Road 38
Pendleton, IN 46064-8529

Indianapolis, IN 46250
317/842-2900 • 800/255-8976 • Fax 317/842-4667

From the desk of
Clarence G. Hupfer
Chief Executive Officer

MEMOMEMOMEMOMEMO

12/17/14

ENR:

RE: HUNT FENCED RIFLES.

I AM IN FAVOR OF USING RIFLES IN THE 2015 SEASON.

I HUNT IN IN, ALA & KY.

WE USE RIFLES IN ALA & KY.

NO INCREASE IN ACCIDENTS DUE TO RIFLES.

THE DUE THIS ALLOWED

HIGH FENCED DISTRICTS IN THE

PAST AND NOW (CERTAIN RIFLES

ARE ALLOWED (I.E. 358 HOURS)

THIS RIFLE SHOTS AT 200 YARDS

SHOOT AT 200 YARDS. THE ALSO

BLACK POWDER GUNS SHOT LINE

A RIFLE (250-300 YDS)

RIFLES ARE 45 MINS / 1 SHOT

KILLS VS SLUG GUNS SOMETIMES

SHOOTING 3-5 SLUGS.

①



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From the desk of
Clarence G. Hupfer
Chief Executive Officer

MEMOMEMOMEMOMEMO

MAY HUNTERS ARE ALREADY

USING RIFLES IN INDIANA

AND NO ACCIDENTS HAVE BEEN

REPORTED TO DATE. LESS DEER

WILL BE HUNDED USING RIFLES

AND ANIMALS WILL BE PUT DOWN

QUICKER. DUE THIS ALLOWED

THE USE OF RIFLES SO IT ONLY

MAKES SENSE TO OPEN IT UP

TO ALL RIFLES. NO DIFFERENCE

BETWEEN .358 HOURS & .358.

YOU CAN ONLY KILL 1 DEER

ANYWAY SO IT WILL NOT LEAD

TO MORE DEER KILLED.

I HAVE IN 2015 WE WILL

BE ABLE TO HUNT WITH RIFLES.

AT LEAST TRY IT FOR A

TRIAL PERIOD OF 3-5 YEARS

Thank You

Clarence G. Hupfer

Greetings,

As an avid hunter and outdoorsman I strongly oppose proposal #312.IAC 9-3-3. The use of high powered rifles in Indiana for deer hunting is absolutely ridiculous! It was mentioned that they are legal for varmit hunting, but that is a completely different story. In deer firearm season there are thousands + thousands of hunters in the woods, which is never the case when it comes to varmit hunting.

It was also mentioned they are legal in Michigan, but that's only true for the northern half, which is not nearly as populated. Nothing was said that they are NOT legal in Ohio or Illinois.

Not only will it be dangerous when hunting with such high powered rifles in this flat, overly populated part of northern Indiana, but where will all the rounds end up when people are sighting

these rifles without a proper stopping target, or people who don't realize how far these bullets actually travel.

Deer populations are on a decline already with the weapons that are legal now. The last thing Indiana needs is thousands upon thousands of hunters sleeping dead in this flat country with overpowering rifles with houses in every direction and roads not far apart.

Please reconsider, as this would be a disaster that could result in deaths not only to hunters, but to citizens far away from the intended targets.

Sincerely,

D. Mackey
5875 S. Locust
Tipton, IN
46571

David Jr. Mackey
A concerned Indiana
resident

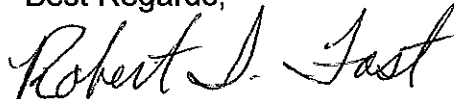
14130 Jones Rd.
Hagerstown, IN 47346
December 16, 2014

NRC Division of Hearings
Indiana Government Center North
100 North Senate Ave. Room N501
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Subject: Opposition to use of high powered hunting rifles during deer hunting season.

I am against the proposed DNR rule allowing deer hunters to use high powered hunting rifles during deer hunting season. The terrain in Indiana and the power of the cartridges used in high powered rifles increases the chance of stray or ricocheted bullets entering nearby homes or out buildings, possibly wounding or killing innocent people or animals that happen to be in harm's way due to the increased distance the bullet will travel.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert I. Fast".

Robert I. Fast

RF



Gary Magoni
5408 Webbfield Dr. N.
Carmel, IN, 46033

Gary Magoni <garymagoni@gmail.com>

Allowing High Powered Rifles To Hunt Deer

1 message

Gary Magoni <garymagoni@gmail.com>

To: nrcrules@nrc.in.gov

Thu, Dec 18, 2014 at 12:12 PM

I just got done reading a front page article in the Indianapolis Star titled "Rifle Rift Fires Up Hunters".

In short, I totally disagree with using high powered rifles to hunt deer in Indiana or any other state that has flat terrain. The article mentioned that modern shotguns, muzzle loaders or pistol cartridges, currently permitted to hunt deer, can shoot just as far as high powered cartridges such as the .243 .308 or 30.06.

I have been shooting guns and hunting all my life. The affective range of even the newest shotguns and muzzle loaders are at best 200 to 250 yards. The shotguns and muzzle loaders also drop very quickly and have nowhere near the carrying distances of high powered rifles. The very real danger from high powered rounds, like the .243, .308 or 30.06, is that they will carry for several miles over flat terrain. A shot gun, muzzle loader or pistol round has nowhere near the same carrying distance, and that is where a high powered rifles are of real danger on flat land.

Another argument for high powered rifles is that shotguns have too heavy of a recoil. I agree that a 12 ga deer round has a heavy recoil, but anyone that has ever shot a 30.06, .308 or any of the bigger high powered rounds will tell you that they also have heavy recoils. Anyone shy of a 12 ga recoil can use a rifle chambered for the .44 mag or 357 mag. They have much less recoil and gun weight for the laddies or kids to handle.

When I retired I bought myself 155 acres in Green County because I felt many of the public hunting areas in Indiana were too crowded and unsafe. High powered rifles would greatly enhance the chance of hunters getting shot by a stray bullet.

THE BOTTOM LINE IS SAFETY AND HIGH POWERED RIFLES ARE MUCH MORE UNSAFE ON FLAT TERRAIN WHERE THERE ARE MANY RURAL FAMILIES AND FARMS!!!!

December 16, 2014

NRC Division of Hearings
Indiana Government Center North
100 N Senate Ave Room N501
Indianapolis IN 46204

I am writing in opposition to the new proposed law allowing High Powered Rifles in the 2015 Deer Season. I have recently read some proponents of the new law claiming that since Muzzle Loaders can already shoot deer at 500 yards why not allow Rifles to be used? The person that claimed that Muzzle Loaders are good out to 500 yards is an idiot and every level headed deer hunter knows it. Muzzle Loaders are not accurate out to anywhere near 500 yards.

The state of Indiana is way too populated to allow High Powered Rifles for deer hunters. Human beings, livestock, houses, farm buildings, etc. would all be in jeopardy. With the range that a High Powered Rifle has; what's left of the deer herd would not have a chance. The combination of EHD and WAY WAY too many doe permits have reduced our deer herd to a sad new low. I have been, and continue to be, totally convinced that the need to raise revenue (increased sale of more and more deer licenses) along with pressure from the car insurance companies and whining farmers who want every deer killed are the reasons for the ridiculously high number of doe permits issued. As I have claimed for years, wild life always loses out to the almighty dollar.

One thing that irritates me is that the farmer always blames the deer for the destruction of their corn crop. I have never heard them acknowledge that it is the raccoons that are knocking down their corn stalks not the deer. Coons always seem to get a pass from the farmers. Granted, deer will nibble on the corn ear as it hangs on the stalk, but they are not responsible for knocking the stalk over; the coons are.

I live in Steuben County and have been hunting deer for approximately 33 years. I have never seen as few deer as I have in the past two seasons. Years ago it was common to see 7-9 deer in a line sneaking through the woods. Now days a hunter is lucky to see 3. I know it would not set well with the farmers, but Indiana needs to cut WAY back on the Depredation Permits they issue. Also, at least in Steuben County the state needs to completely do away with doe permits for a year. If that cannot be done, at least limit it to one doe per hunter.

Bottom line – No High Powered Rifles in Indiana!!!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Scott

Scott Bond

Bond
840 E 300 N
Angola IN
46703

12-15-14

Dear Sirs:

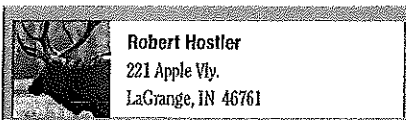
This letter is written to express my concern about several natural resource situations. I've lived all my life in Noble and LaGrange counties where I hunt and fish. I'm soon to be 76 years of age and have seen several changes. As of date I'm totally against high-powered rifles that would lower even more the deer base in north-east Indiana. My sons ~~and~~ and I are seeing ~~less~~ ^{fewer} and ~~less~~ ^{fewer} deer ever year. I believe we need to lower the bonus deer to one. We have folks in LaGrange county that may have 3-4-5 hunting. Of that many family members each shoot four bonus deer, that could be 20 deer taken just in bonus. We are very selective in what we harvest, if we get any chances.

In the area of fishing, I would suggest we limit bluegills to 25 per day. Some folks get on pontoons 6-8-10 and keep everything they catch. Some lakes are being over fished and appear to have very little breeding stock left to reproduce.

Thank you for reading my comments.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Hostler



December 11, 2014



To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing pertaining to my opposition to high power rifles being used in Indiana deer hunting.

As a home owner of 100 acres in Noble Co. I feel like it is a real safety issue. I live in basically a wooded area & the range of high power rifles would be very dangerous to not only me, but my neighbors as well.

Thank you

Larry Slavin
Noble Co. Ind.

2606 N 300 E

Albion, IN 46701

I am not in favor of allowing high powered rifles in Indiana. Indiana is too heavily populated for this.

Monroe Raber

P.S.-I would be in favor of a longer fall turkey shotgun season.

MONROE & NAOMI RABER
8790 W 300 S
Topeka, IN 46571



Mr. Dale S. Souder
122 W 1st St.
Auburn, IN 46706-1704

260 925-4676

ATTN. SIRS OR MS;

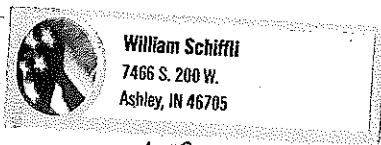
ABSOLUTELY NO HIGH-
POWERED RIFLES - 30-30-30-06
NO-NO-NO - IN FACT
SHOULD B - ONLY SHOTGUN GUNS
OR BOW + ARROW - CROSSBOW
WHAT THE "HELL" ARE
U - PEOPLE THINKING - GOD
GIVE U A BRAIN TO USE
(COMMON SENSE) TRY USING
IT. (BRAIN) IN A SAFER POS
WAY Sincerely Dale S. Souder

12-11-74

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

MY WIFE, SON & I OWN 40
ACRES IN STUBBINS COUNTY, MOSTLY
SURROUNDED BY TREES. WE
DON'T HUNT. BUT THERE ARE MANY
HUNTERS ON THE FAR SIDE OF OUR
PROPERTY LINES. WE DON'T NEED
HIGH POWERED DEER HUNTING
IN THIS COUNTY OR STATE.

PLEASE TELL DUM & DUMMER
& ALL THE OTHER DUMMIES
WE DON'T NEED ALL THIS TROUBLE.



COMMON SENSE,
Bill Schiffli

December 8, 2014

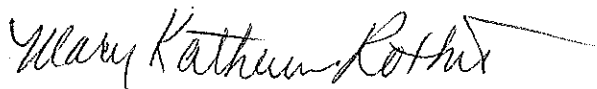
NRC Division of Hearings
Indiana Government Center North
100 N. Senate Ave., Room N501
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Hearing officer:

I am writing specifically to comment on the rule governing high-powered rifles during the hunting season. As someone who lives close to state land, I have a safety concern. My house has been hit twice by rifle fire since I have lived at my current address. I am sure that in one instance the hunter was unaware that he was not on state land as the boundaries are unmarked.

I urge you to ban high-powered rifles for hunting and regulate other firearms so citizens are not endangered. The range of some of these weapons is inappropriate for use in your scattered land parcels.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Katherine Rothert". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Mary Katherine Rothert

Mary Kay Rothert
6620 E State Rd. 45
Bloomington, IN 47408

SUBJECT : Rule 312IAC9-3-3

To who it concerns. I would like to voice my concerns about the rule change allowing high powered rifles during deer season. In my opinion and everyone I've talked to no one is in favor of this change! Mainly safety concerns, deer heard numbers going down, and are season is to long already. Thanks Mike Mullins

9858 N.U.S. 421
Madison,In.

12/05/2014

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

My name is Norman Wampler Jr. and I have been an avid Indiana Outdoorsman pretty much as long as I can remember. I started following my dad around when I was probably five or six years old. I started hunting squirrels and rabbits and then started deer hunting when I was thirteen years old and have been hooked every since. I am currently forty eight years old, so I have been deer hunting for thirty-five years. I can remember when it was a big deal to just see a deer track, let alone an actual deer. In the eighties and nineties it seemed deer were everywhere. I spend countless hours in the woods every year and keep a log each day I am in the woods. I primarily hunt Greene, Owen, Martin, and Daviess counties. I drive every day from Northwest of Worthington to Crane Naval Base to work. According to my records and my travels across Indiana it is my determination that the deer herd is down by at least fifty percent. I love to deer hunt and spend time in God's creation, but I want to see deer while I'm at it. I understand the need for a manageable sized herd, but I do not understand the proposed rule changes you want to implement. I do not agree with the possible changes to allow high powered rifles. I currently hunt with an inline muzzleloader and I cannot shoot 500 yards. Even if I could, I can't shoot repeatedly. I believe you are asking for trouble and the chances of someone getting killed, a house or building shot through, etc. are great. Most of the deer hunting done in Indiana is around towns, homes, farms, and populated areas, this is not the West where it is wide and open.

I also disagree with the proposed change to extend the firearm season in the (formerly urban zones) from November 11 through January 31. To me, this will probably be a deer slaughter. Why do you think this is necessary? I just don't understand. Is it pressure from insurance companies? I rarely see a deer while traveling Indiana roads now, let alone one hit by a vehicle. I just would like for someone to explain to me why these changes are necessary. It seems like to me the deer herd is on the decline already. Is your intent to wipe them out?

In closing, I would really like a response to this letter. I love to deer hunt and am concerned about the future of deer hunting in Indiana.

Very respectfully,



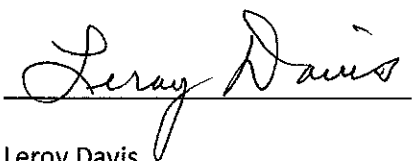
Norman G. Wampler, Jr. (812) 798-1155

3512 W. 800 N.

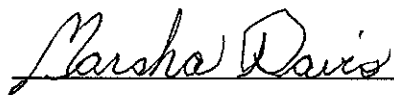
Worthington, IN 47471

We would like to offer our opinion on the proposed amendments to rules governing deer hunting. We do not support this proposed change. We have owned a 181 acre farm in Wabash County, Indiana for the past 37 years. Our farm only has 60 tillable acres and the balance is forest land and three small ponds. We have our property enrolled in the Classified Wildlife Program. We truly enjoy having our family and friends hunt deer on our property. We believe allowing the use of high-powered rifles for deer hunting is a SERIOUS MISTAKE. We have several neighbors close by and due to the close proximity of nearby residences we believe the range of high-powered rifles makes it extremely dangerous.

I am 71 years old and have hunted deer on my property during gun season for the past 37 years. I am strongly convinced that high-powered rifles would be extremely dangerous in our area. My convictions are so strong on this matter that I will no longer hunt deer if this proposed rule allowing high-powered rifles is enacted. I hate to stop something I truly enjoy but I must think of safety first. Who was the idiot that thought we need high-powered rifles to kill a deer in Indiana??? What ^{about} the safety or your enforcement personnel who are on duty during hunting season?????



Leroy Davis
5809 W 1300 N
Silver Lake, IN 46982



Marsha Davis

FILED

DEC 06 2014

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
DIVISION OF HEARINGS

Division of Hearings,

A lot of talk has been about the proposed rifle season lately, and rightfully so. I think it is one of the worst decisions that could happen for the state's deer herd if passed. However, I have voiced my concerns. I used the submittal process for that.

What I am writing about today is a proposed rule that I feel needs to happen. I spend a lot of time in the woods every year. Turkey hunting, deer hunting, scouting for upcoming seasons and shed hunting. It is becoming all too common to see, and encounter, a bobcat. I feel they are at the point and population that they could effectively be hunted without being detrimental to their population. In fact something alarming has been happening. My sister and brother-in-law who reside in Posey County have had a bobcat show up multiple times a week just to sit on the edge of their property and watch. It shows no fear to the barking dog. They also have a newborn baby who will eventually be outside with the cat watching. Very scary thought. There are also other instances where house cats and small dogs are showing up dead and reported missing. It is time to allow bobcat to be hunted. My friend's property holds over five bobcats (as seen and ID'd on cameras). Let us, as sportsmen, be proactive and not reactive.

Thanks for your time to read this.

Bobcat Season Proposal
1 per hunter

Kyle Adler
Evansville, IN

FILED

DEC 05 2014

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
DIVISION OF HEARINGS

NRC Division of Hearings
Indiana Government Center North
100 North Senate Ave., Room N501
Indianapolis, IN, 46204.

FILED

DEC 05 2014

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
DIVISION OF HEARINGS

I heard you are considering allowing high powered rifles for deer hunting in Indiana. I am 67 years old, a life long resident of Indiana, and I have hunted all of my life.

I cannot imagine anyone thinking that allowing rifle shooting as a means of hunting deer to be anything but a bad idea. Here are some of my thoughts:

1. The state is too densely populated' for this,
2. the range of the bullets would be too great and therefore put too many people at risk including non-hunters such as residents especially in rural areas
3. the velocity of these bullets is too great and would risk crippling the game and leaving injured and defenseless animals to suffer needlessly until they would die from the wounds or be killed by predators
4. even if the shot were lethal, because of the velocity of these bullets, these animals could travel great distances before finally collapsing which make recovering the game very difficult if not impossible in some cases
5. I am afraid this would encourage novices to hunt with very dangerous weapons and little if any experience putting too many at risk.....these novices could think it is an easier hunt with this weapon and therefore hunt without the seasoned experience to do so
6. the State of Indiana has, from the beginning of modern deer hunting, not allowed rifle hunting for all of the reasons listed and more. The state was far less populated then. It was a good idea then and an even better idea now.

If there are too many deer in Indiana (I believe there are far too many) then the heard needs to be reduced. This can be accomplished by allowing hunters to kill more deer, longer season especially doe season. The heard cannot be effectively reduced by harvesting more bucks. It can only be reduced by harvesting more does.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patrick F. Turner".

Patrick F. Turner email: pfryturner@yahoo.com

640 E St NE

Linton, IN 47441

DEER STAR

I want you to know that
you need to stop thinking
about doing stupid stuff
I am talking about using
HIGH POWER RIFLES during
DEER SEASONS the BULLET
WILL CARRY A LONG WAY AND

When the BULLET will hit
a person it will kill or
will leave a person badly

Went so leave the HIGH POWER
RIFLES TO COYOTE HUNTING

BECAUSE THAT ARE A WISE CHOICE
AND THERE ARE SOME HUNTERS THAT NEVER

Look what is behind the GAME that are
SHOOTING AT AND ALL SO HAVE LONGER

DEER SEASONS FOR GUN'S LOOK HOW LONG
DEER SEASONS IS FOR BOW'S FROM

OCT, to JANUARY LOOK NOW SHORT DEER SEASONS
KING'S

AN BARN
BET NORTH OLOLI
VINCENTS THE
H7501

SINCERELY

JOHN BALLARD